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# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

*A Monthly Report by the* **NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**
*Prepared in Coordination with the* **UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

December 1988

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## Unemployment Rate 3.0% in December, Up 0.5% from November and 0.9% from Year Ago; November Rate Nation's Lowest

New Hampshire registered an unemployment rate in December of 3.0 percent, compared to 2.5 percent in November. The unemployment rate in December 1987 was estimated at 2.1 percent. The rise in the rate of unemployment from November was caused by an increase in the number of unemployed workers (+2,840) at the same time the state's civilian labor force dropped (-1,330). This is the only year in the past six in which the labor force and employment have declined from November to December, and may signal slightly higher unemployment rates to come during the next year. All labor market areas except one, the New Hampshire portion of the Lowell, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area, experienced higher unemployment rates in December than in November. With no exceptions, the labor market areas had higher unemployment rates in December 1988 than in December 1987.

For the state, the annual average unemployment rate for 1988 was estimated to be 2.5 percent, the same as in 1987.

December 1988 estimates reveal that the New Hampshire labor force has risen 12,910 since the same month a year earlier, while the number of unemployed workers has risen 5,580 over the same period. The unemployment rate in December 1987 was 2.1 percent, 0.9 percentage points lower than currently. Compared with twenty-four months earlier, the labor force has risen 41,490, while unemployment has gone up 3,790. The unemployment rate in December 1986 was 2.5 percent, slightly less than the current 3.0 percent.

New Hampshire had the lowest unemployment rate in the country during November, 2.5 percent. The state was followed by Rhode Island (2.7 percent), and Maine and Vermont (both 2.9 percent). Thirteen states had November unemployment rates less than 4.0 percent, including all six New England states. New England claimed five of the six lowest unemployment rates, and six of the nine lowest rates. Massachusetts had the highest November rate in the region at 3.5 percent; the highest unemployment rates in the nation were found in Louisiana, at 9.6 percent, and in Alaska and West Virginia, both at 9.0 percent.

Nationally, the not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in December was 5.0 percent, a decline from 5.2 percent in November, and a larger decline from 5.4 percent seen in December 1987. The United States civilian labor force was estimated to be 122,120,000 in December, a 519,000 decrease from November levels, but 1,914,000 above December 1987 levels. Unemployment was 6,142,000 in December, 183,000 lower than in November, and 384,000 lower than in December 1987.

## Employment Trends in New Hampshire

According to sample-based estimates, nonagricultural wage and salary employment in New Hampshire rose by 2,450 workers from November to December. Of this change, 900 was allocated to the manufacturing sector and 1,550 to the nonmanufacturing sector. Compared to December 1987, nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimates have increased by 20,500; estimated manufacturing gains (+2,200) were a fraction of estimated nonmanufacturing worker increases (+18,300).

The recent gains in durable goods industries were concentrated in the Machinery (except electrical) (+300), and the Electrical Products (+250) industries. These gains, along with other, smaller increases, outweighed estimated losses in the Lumber and Wood Products (-50) and Furniture and Fixtures (-150) industries. Most of the estimated nondurable goods increases over the month occurred in the Food and Kindred Products industry (+150).

The pattern in nonmanufacturing was much more mixed. Wholesale and retail trade groups, as expected as the holiday season approached, gained the most jobs (+2,350) over the month. This was followed by job expansion in the services industries (+2,000). The trade gains were concentrated in General Merchandise Stores (+750), Food Stores (+450), and Apparel and Accessory Stores (+550), while the majority of the services sector increase was in the Amusement and Recreation Services industry (+1,300), principally due to the advent of the winter sports season. Acting as the major offsetting factor to those increases was the drop in construction sector employment (-2,400) from November to December.

The estimated 20,500 increase in nonagricultural wage and salary employment from December 1987 to December 1988 was, again, predominately centered in the nonmanufacturing sector (+18,300). Services industries gained 7,150 jobs, wholesale and retail trade industries added 5,400, and government (primarily the local sector) increased 5,050. Construction industries were estimated to have 300 fewer employees in December 1988 than twelve months earlier. The manufacturing sector increase (+2,200) was spurred by durable goods industries (+1,850); the Electrical Products industry added 1,100 workers, the Fabricated Metal Products industry added 600, and the Machinery (except electrical), industry increased 550. Changes in other durable goods industries were smaller and in mixed directions. Nondurable industries gained overall (+350); the Printing, Publishing, and Allied Products industry increased by 400 workers, the Food and Kindred Products industry gained 300, and several other industries expanded. However, the continued decline of the Textile Mill Products (-150), Apparel (-200), and Leather and Leather Products (-200) industries helped limit estimated jobs growth in the nondurable manufacturing goods sector.

### Unemployment Trends

Unemployment in New Hampshire rose to 18,160 in December. This was 2,840 more unemployed than in November, and 5,580 more than in December 1987.

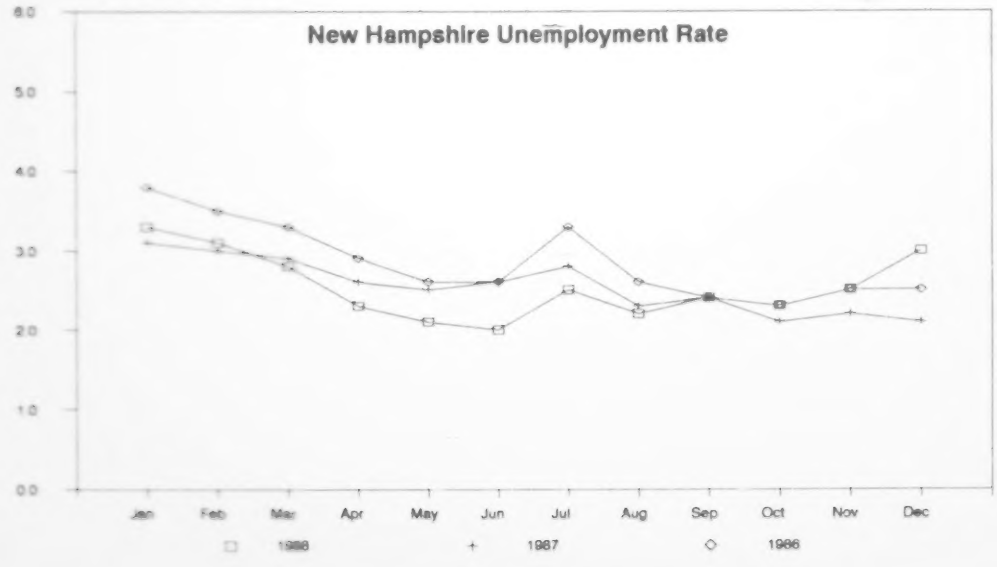
The lowest December unemployment rate was registered in the Keene Labor Market Area (LMA) (1.6 percent). This was followed by the Claremont LMA (2.0 percent) and the Portsmouth-Dover- Rochester NH-Me Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (2.2 percent). Highest rates were found in the New Hampshire portions of the Lowell, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA), consisting of Pelham, (5.7 percent) and of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts PMSA, consisting of the Salem area, (4.8 percent), and the Littleton LMA (4.5 percent). All areas experienced higher unemployment rates in December than twelve months earlier. All areas also registered higher rates than in November.

### Manufacturing Hours and Earnings Up Slightly Over Month; Average Weekly Hours Decline From Previous December

Average weekly earnings were up slightly over the month, advancing $7.57 from November. This was caused by average hourly earnings rising a very small amount (up $0.04 per hour) and average weekly hours increasing by 0.6 hours. December average hourly earnings were calculated to be $0.66 higher than in December 1987. However, increases in average weekly earnings were limited by the widespread decline in average weekly hours from a year earlier. Overall manufacturing average weekly hours declined 1.4 hours from December 1987 to December 1988.

Average hourly earnings were estimated to he highest in the Food and Kindred Products industry ($11.54) in the nondurable goods sector, followed by the Electrical Products industry ($11.07) in the durable goods sector. Average weekly earnings were highest in the Food and Kindred Products industry ($467.37), followed by the Machinery (except electrical) industry ($459.07) and the Primary Metal Products industry ($457.88).

*Note: Although monthly changes are included in this publication, it should be noted that these figures are not seasonally adjusted. Over-the-month comparisons may be affected by seasonal changes and thus could present misleading representation of underlying trends. To eliminate bias, it is more useful to compare any non-seasonally-adjusted statistic with that of twelve months earlier.*



## TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE BY AREA AND COUNTY*

| | UNEMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | | CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | December 1988 | | November 1988 | | December 1987 | | Numerical Change From Previous: | | December | November | December | Numerical Change From Previous: | |
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Month | Year | 1988 | 1988 | 1987 | Month | Year |
| **United States**** | 6,142 | 5.0 | 6,325 | 5.2 | 6,526 | 5.4 | (183) | (384) | 122,120 | 122,639 | 120,206 | (519) | 1,914 |
| **New Hampshire** | 18,160 | 3.0 | 15,320 | 2.5 | 12,580 | 2.1 | 2,840 | 5,580 | 612,210 | 613,540 | 599,300 | (1,330) | 12,910 |
| Berlin LMA | 880 | 3.3 | 680 | 2.5 | 640 | 2.5 | 200 | 240 | 26,800 | 26,950 | 25,810 | (150) | 990 |
| Claremont LMA | 860 | 2.0 | 740 | 1.8 | 430 | 1.1 | 120 | 430 | 41,970 | 41,840 | 40,060 | 130 | 1,910 |
| Concord LMA | 1,650 | 2.9 | 1,330 | 2.4 | 950 | 1.8 | 320 | 700 | 55,960 | 56,310 | 54,180 | (350) | 1,780 |
| Keene LMA | 690 | 1.6 | 600 | 1.4 | 650 | 1.5 | 90 | 40 | 43,750 | 44,370 | 42,240 | (620) | 1,510 |
| Laconia LMA | 1,480 | 2.7 | 1,080 | 2.0 | 840 | 1.6 | 400 | 640 | 53,920 | 54,530 | 51,460 | (610) | 2,460 |
| Littleton LMA | 840 | 4.5 | 840 | 4.4 | 410 | 2.3 | 0 | 430 | 18,790 | 19,160 | 17,880 | (370) | 910 |
| Manchester MSA | 2,270 | 2.6 | 1,710 | 2.0 | 1,530 | 1.8 | 560 | 740 | 87,020 | 86,730 | 87,130 | 290 | (110) |
| Nashua PMSA | 3,250 | 3.2 | 3,060 | 3.1 | 2,270 | 2.3 | 190 | 980 | 100,450 | 100,200 | 100,650 | 250 | (200) |
| NH portion Lawrence-Haverhill, Ma PMSA*** | 2,440 | 4.8 | 2,260 | 4.4 | 2,230 | 4.3 | 180 | 210 | 51,060 | 50,930 | 51,470 | 60 | 1,010 |
| Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester NH+ Me MSA | 3,040 | 2.2 | 2,260 | 1.7 | 2,140 | 1.6 | 780 | 900 | 136,340 | 136,810 | 132,620 | (470) | 3,720 |
| Unattached Estimating Area**** | 830 | 3.9 | 700 | 3.3 | 600 | 3.0 | 130 | 230 | 21,050 | 20,990 | 20,040 | 60 | 1,010 |
| NH portion Lowell Ma PMSA | 310 | 5.7 | 330 | 6.1 | 280 | 5.2 | (20) | 30 | 5,410 | 5,430 | 5,430 | (20) | (20) |
| **Counties** | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Belknap | 700 | 2.5 | 560 | 2.0 | 400 | 1.5 | 140 | 300 | 27,860 | 28,230 | 26,640 | (370) | 1,220 |
| Carroll | 540 | 2.8 | 420 | 2.2 | 240 | 1.3 | 120 | 300 | 18,960 | 19,110 | 18,070 | (150) | 890 |
| Cheshire | 640 | 1.6 | 560 | 1.4 | 590 | 1.6 | 80 | 50 | 39,050 | 39,610 | 37,700 | (560) | 1,350 |
| Coos | 890 | 4.2 | 770 | 3.6 | 670 | 3.3 | 120 | 220 | 21,110 | 21,290 | 20,310 | (180) | 800 |
| Grafton | 1,180 | 2.8 | 1,070 | 2.5 | 660 | 1.6 | 110 | 520 | 42,060 | 42,430 | 40,210 | (370) | 1,850 |
| Hillsborough | 5,740 | 3.0 | 4,970 | 2.6 | 3,930 | 2.1 | 770 | 1,810 | 188,670 | 188,250 | 188,160 | 420 | 510 |
| Merrimack | 1,770 | 2.7 | 1,410 | 2.1 | 1,070 | 1.7 | 360 | 700 | 66,190 | 66,580 | 64,250 | (390) | 1,940 |
| Rockingham | 4,680 | 3.7 | 4,040 | 3.2 | 3,860 | 3.1 | 640 | 820 | 126,150 | 125,960 | 124,700 | 190 | 1,450 |
| Strafford | 1,510 | 2.5 | 1,100 | 1.8 | 940 | 1.6 | 410 | 570 | 60,590 | 60,600 | 58,740 | (10) | 1,850 |
| Sullivan | 510 | 2.4 | 420 | 2.0 | 220 | 1.1 | 90 | 290 | 21,570 | 21,480 | 20,520 | 90 | 1,050 |

* *NH estimates based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 step handbook method" adjusted to the Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates.*

** *In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.*

*** *New Hampshire Portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and twelve small towns.*

**** *Includes twenty towns previously in either Dover, Portsmouth, Manchester, or Nashua LMA's.*

## NEW HAMPSHIRE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT AS OF THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH

| — | Number of Workers December 1988 | November 1988 | December 1987 | Numerical Change * From Previous: Month | Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Labor Force Data** ** | | | | | |
| 1. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | 612,210 | 613,540 | 599,300 | (1,330) | 12,910 |
| 2. UNEMPLOYMENT | 18,160 | 15,320 | 12,580 | 2,840 | 5,580 |
| PERCENT OF LABOR FORCE | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.1 | ---- | ---- |
| 3. EMPLOYMENT TOTAL | 594,050 | 598,220 | 586,720 | (4,170) | 7,330 |
| 4. PERSONS INVOLVED IN LABOR DISPUTES | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Employment by Industry** *** | | | | | |
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT | 549,550 | 547,100 | 529,050 | 2,450 | 20,500 |
| MANUFACTURING | 123,800 | 122,900 | 121,600 | 900 | 2,200 |
| Durable Goods | 87,150 | 86,500 | 85,300 | 650 | 1,850 |
| Lumber and wood products | 6,200 | 6,250 | 6,400 | (50) | (200) |
| Furniture and fixtures | 1,500 | 1,650 | 1,650 | (150) | (150) |
| Stone and clay products | 3,800 | 3,800 | 3,700 | 0 | 100 |
| Primary metal products | 4,500 | 4,450 | 4,550 | 50 | (50) |
| Fabricated metal products | 7,450 | 7,350 | 6,850 | 100 | 600 |
| Machinery (except electrical) | 27,000 | 26,700 | 26,450 | 300 | 550 |
| Electrical products | 25,250 | 25,000 | 24,150 | 250 | 1,100 |
| Miscellaneous products | 2,000 | 1,950 | 2,100 | 50 | (100) |
| Other durable goods | 9,450 | 9,350 | 9,450 | 100 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 36,650 | 36,400 | 36,300 | 250 | 350 |
| Food and kindred products | 3,150 | 3,000 | 2,850 | 150 | 300 |
| Textile mill products | 3,700 | 3,700 | 3,850 | 0 | (150) |
| Apparel | 1,750 | 1,750 | 1,950 | 0 | (200) |
| Paper and allied products | 5,650 | 5,650 | 5,850 | 0 | (200) |
| Printing, publishing, and allied | 8,850 | 8,800 | 8,450 | 50 | 400 |
| Leather and leather products | 3,350 | 3,350 | 3,550 | 0 | (200) |
| Other nondurable goods | 10,200 | 10,150 | 9,800 | 50 | 400 |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 425,750 | 424,200 | 407,450 | 1,550 | 18,300 |
| Construction (including mining) | 38,450 | 40,850 | 38,750 | (2,400) | (300) |
| Transportation, communication, and utilities | 17,150 | 17,300 | 17,150 | (150) | 0 |
| Trade | 141,400 | 139,050 | 136,000 | 2,350 | 5,400 |
| Finance, insurance, and real estate | 33,800 | 33,700 | 32,800 | 100 | 1,000 |
| Service industry and other | 123,500 | 121,500 | 116,350 | 2,000 | 7,150 |
| Government | 71,450 | 71,800 | 66,400 | (350) | 5,050 |
| Federal | 8,900 | 8,900 | 8,750 | 0 | 150 |
| State | 18,800 | 18,700 | 17,650 | 100 | 1,150 |
| Local | 43,750 | 44,200 | 40,000 | (450) | 3,750 |
| Persons involved in labor disputes (not included in Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Total above) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* *Numbers in parentheses indicate negative numbers*
** *By place of residence*
*** *By place of establishment*

## MSA LABOR FORCE, TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT, AND NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT AS OF THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH

| | Manchester MSA | | | | | Nashua PMSA | | | | | Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of Workers | | | Numerical Change*** | | Number of Workers | | | Numerical Change*** | | Number of Workers | | | Numerical Change*** | |
| | December 1988 | November 1988 | December 1987 | From Previous: Month | Year | December 1988 | November 1988 | December 1987 | From Previous: Month | Year | December 1988 | November 1988 | December 1987 | From Previous: Month | Year |
| **Labor Force Data*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Civilian Labor Force | 87,020 | 86,730 | 87,130 | 290 | (110) | 100,450 | 100,200 | 100,650 | 250 | (200) | 136,340 | 136,810 | 132,620 | (470) | 3,720 |
| 2. Unemployment | 2,270 | 1,710 | 1,530 | 560 | 740 | 3,250 | 3,060 | 2,270 | 190 | 980 | 3,040 | 2,260 | 2,140 | 780 | 900 |
| Percentage of Labor Force | 2.6 | 2.0 | 1.8 | ---- | ---- | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.3 | ---- | ---- | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.6 | ---- | ---- |
| 3. Employment Total | 84,750 | 85,020 | 85,600 | (270) | (850) | 97,200 | 97,140 | 98,380 | 60 | (1,180) | 133,300 | 134,550 | 130,480 | (1,250) | 2,820 |
| 4. Persons involved in Labor Disputes | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Employment by Industry**** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT | 89,350 | 88,650 | 88,050 | 700 | 1,300 | 97,250 | 96,450 | 95,200 | 800 | 2,050 | 116,050 | 116,150 | 111,350 | (100) | 4,700 |
| MANUFACTURING | 11,950 | 11,750 | 12,150 | 200 | (200) | 37,300 | 37,150 | 37,400 | 150 | (100) | 21,800 | 21,300 | 20,650 | 500 | 1,150 |
| Durable Goods | 7,350 | 7,200 | 7,500 | 150 | (150) | 31,400 | 31,200 | 31,200 | 200 | 200 | 13,900 | 13,550 | 13,000 | 350 | 900 |
| Machinery and electrical products | 4,050 | 4,050 | 4,200 | 0 | (150) | 23,950 | 23,750 | 23,550 | 200 | 400 | | | | | |
| Other durable goods | 3,300 | 3,150 | 3,300 | 150 | 0 | 7,450 | 7,450 | 7,650 | 0 | (200) | | | | | |
| Nondurable Goods | 4,600 | 4,550 | 4,650 | 50 | (50) | 5,900 | 5,950 | 6,200 | (50) | (300) | 7,900 | 7,750 | 7,650 | 150 | 250 |
| Textile mill products | 1,150 | 1,100 | 1,300 | 50 | (150) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other nondurable goods | 3,450 | 3,450 | 3,350 | 0 | 100 | | | | | | | | | | |
| NONMANUFACTURING | 77,400 | 76,900 | 75,900 | 500 | 1,500 | 59,950 | 59,300 | 57,800 | 650 | 2,150 | 94,250 | 94,850 | 90,700 | (600) | 3,550 |
| Construction (including mining) | 6,300 | 6,600 | 6,300 | (300) | 0 | 5,650 | 5,750 | 5,600 | (100) | 50 | 6,300 | 6,300 | 6,350 | 0 | (50) |
| Transportation, communication, and utilities | 5,450 | 5,300 | 5,100 | 150 | 350 | 2,150 | 2,150 | 2,100 | 0 | 50 | 3,200 | 3,200 | 2,950 | 0 | 250 |
| Trade | 25,700 | 25,250 | 25,300 | 450 | 400 | 22,050 | 21,600 | 21,650 | 450 | 400 | 31,600 | 31,700 | 29,300 | (100) | 2,300 |
| Finance, insurance, and real estate | 8,400 | 8,350 | 8,850 | 50 | (450) | 4,000 | 4,050 | 4,000 | (50) | 0 | 6,800 | 6,750 | 6,750 | 50 | 50 |
| Service industry & other | 22,150 | 22,050 | 21,850 | 100 | 300 | 18,600 | 18,400 | 17,650 | 200 | 950 | 20,750 | 20,950 | 19,750 | (200) | 1,000 |
| Government | 9,400 | 9,350 | 8,500 | 50 | 900 | 7,500 | 7,350 | 6,800 | 150 | 700 | 25,600 | 25,950 | 25,600 | (350) | 0 |
| Federal | 2,750 | 2,750 | 2,800 | 0 | (50) | 950 | 950 | 850 | 0 | 100 | 10,450 | 10,500 | 10,450 | (50) | 0 |
| State | 1,050 | 1,050 | 800 | 0 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 0 | 0 | 5,300 | 5,250 | 5,500 | 50 | (200) |
| Local | 5,600 | 5,550 | 4,900 | 50 | 700 | 6,300 | 6,150 | 5,700 | 150 | 600 | 9,850 | 10,200 | 9,650 | (350) | 200 |
| Persons involved in labor disputes (not included in Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment above) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* *By place of residence*
** *By place of establishment*
*** *Numbers in parentheses indicate negative numbers*

**Manchester MSA** – includes the city of Manchester and the towns of Allenstown, Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Goffstown, and Hooksett.
**Nashua PMSA** – includes the city of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton.
**Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA** – includes the New Hampshire cities of Dover, Portsmouth, Rochester, and Somersworth; the New Hampshire towns of Barrington, Durham, Exeter, Farmington, Greenland, Hampton, Lee, Madbury, Milton, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket, North Hampton, Rollinsford, Rye, and Stratham; and the Maine towns of Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, North Berwick, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells, and York.

## AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

| Industry | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 |
| All Manufacturing | $402.98 | $395.41 | $389.25 | 40.5 | 39.9 | 41.9 | $ 9.95 | $ 9.91 | $ 9.29 |
| Durable goods | 413.51 | 401.37 | 406.50 | 40.7 | 39.7 | 42.7 | 10.16 | 10.11 | 9.52 |
| Lumber and wood products | 347.60 | 338.69 | 333.56 | 39.1 | 38.4 | 39.9 | 8.89 | 8.82 | 8.36 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 315.66 | 309.55 | 307.93 | 42.2 | 41.0 | 41.5 | 7.48 | 7.55 | 7.42 |
| Stone and clay products | 385.12 | 387.89 | 373.68 | 41.5 | 42.3 | 43.1 | 9.28 | 9.17 | 8.67 |
| Primary metal products | 457.88 | 473.69 | 429.02 | 45.2 | 45.9 | 49.2 | 10.13 | 10.32 | 8.72 |
| Fabricated metal products | 432.65 | 411.59 | 421.80 | 42.5 | 41.2 | 44.4 | 10.18 | 9.99 | 9.50 |
| Machinery (except electrical) | 459.07 | 435.31 | 438.86 | 44.7 | 42.1 | 44.6 | 10.27 | 10.34 | 9.84 |
| Electrical products | 394.09 | 390.18 | 408.62 | 35.6 | 35.6 | 40.1 | 11.07 | 10.96 | 10.19 |
| Miscellaneous products | 346.18 | 351.11 | 328.46 | 39.7 | 41.7 | 40.5 | 8.72 | 8.42 | 8.11 |
| Other durable goods | 420.26 | 397.40 | 415.92 | 41.9 | 39.9 | 43.1 | 10.03 | 9.96 | 9.65 |
| Nondurable goods | 380.15 | 379.35 | 350.47 | 40.1 | 40.1 | 40.1 | 9.48 | 9.46 | 8.74 |
| Food and kindred products | 467.37 | 508.56 | 509.87 | 40.5 | 42.7 | 43.1 | 11.54 | 11.91 | 11.83 |
| Textile mill products | 338.60 | 327.49 | 317.75 | 40.6 | 39.6 | 41.0 | 8.34 | 8.27 | 7.75 |
| Apparel | 251.34 | 265.34 | 245.89 | 36.8 | 38.4 | 37.2 | 6.83 | 6.91 | 6.61 |
| Paper and allied products | 444.58 | 421.97 | 315.92 | 42.1 | 39.4 | 44.0 | 10.56 | 10.71 | 7.18 |
| Printing, publishing, and allied | 412.12 | 413.40 | 399.19 | 39.4 | 39.0 | 40.2 | 10.46 | 10.60 | 9.93 |
| Leather and leather products | 215.78 | 217.27 | 192.76 | 35.2 | 35.1 | 33.7 | 6.13 | 6.19 | 5.72 |
| Footwear | 215.42 | 217.62 | 191.42 | 35.2 | 35.1 | 33.7 | 6.12 | 6.20 | 5.68 |
| Other nondurable goods | 399.78 | 401.04 | 398.97 | 41.6 | 42.8 | 40.3 | 9.61 | 9.37 | 9.90 |

*Sample Percent of Production Workers: 43.5%*

*Total Production Workers: 84,650*

*Firms Reporting: 304*

### Manchester MSA

| Industry | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 |
| All Manufacturing | $405.41 | $400.70 | $408.87 | 40.1 | 39.4 | 41.3 | $10.11 | $10.17 | $ 9.90 |
| Durable goods | 409.50 | 397.50 | 414.50 | 39.0 | 37.5 | 40.4 | 10.50 | 10.60 | 10.26 |
| Machinery and electrical products | 440.02 | 421.11 | 427.87 | 41.2 | 39.1 | 41.3 | 10.68 | 10.77 | 10.36 |
| Other durable goods | 372.08 | 366.04 | 398.50 | 36.3 | 35.4 | 39.3 | 10.25 | 10.34 | 10.14 |
| Nondurable goods | 400.37 | 407.79 | 398.54 | 42.1 | 42.7 | 42.9 | 9.51 | 9.55 | 9.29 |
| Textiles and apparel | 331.06 | 351.11 | 292.19 | 39.6 | 41.7 | 38.7 | 8.36 | 8.42 | 7.55 |
| Other nondurable goods | 423.42 | 426.56 | 439.66 | 42.9 | 43.0 | 44.5 | 9.87 | 9.92 | 9.88 |

*Sample Percent of Production Workers: 55.0%*

*Total Production Workers: 8,900*

*Firms Reporting: 37*

### Nashua PMSA

| Industry | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 |
| All Manufacturing | $529.20 | $498.80 | $497.88 | 41.9 | 40.0 | 42.7 | $12.63 | $12.47 | $11.66 |
| Durable goods | 541.02 | 504.40 | 510.82 | 42.3 | 40.0 | 43.4 | 12.79 | 12.61 | 11.77 |
| Machinery and electrical products | 577.27 | 536.84 | 539.75 | 41.5 | 39.3 | 42.5 | 13.91 | 13.66 | 12.70 |
| Other durable goods | 464.20 | 435.14 | 442.43 | 44.0 | 41.6 | 45.8 | 10.55 | 10.46 | 9.66 |
| Nondurable goods | 479.59 | 472.43 | 449.44 | 40.2 | 39.8 | 40.2 | 11.93 | 11.87 | 11.18 |

*Sample Percent of Production Workers: 37.9%*

*Total Production Workers: 19,650*

*Firms Reporting: 54*

### Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA

| Industry | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 | Dec 1988 | Nov 1988 | Dec 1987 |
| All Manufacturing | $395.91 | $386.78 | $357.63 | 41.5 | 41.5 | 39.0 | $ 9.54 | $ 9.32 | $ 9.17 |
| Durable goods | 425.79 | 424.20 | 399.31 | 41.5 | 42.0 | 41.9 | 10.26 | 10.10 | 9.53 |
| Nondurable goods | 346.53 | 325.60 | 291.37 | 41.5 | 40.7 | 34.4 | 8.35 | 8.00 | 8.47 |

*Sample Percent of Production Workers: 41.5%*

*Total Production Workers: 15,300*

*Firms Reporting: 30*

All local offices showed increases in the number of active applicants for December (11,471) which amounted to an increase of 1,294 over November (10,177). There were decreases in the number of job openings received in all major occupations between November and December, except for professional, technical and managerial occupations which increased by 13. The significance of the increase is that in the previous year this group showed one of the sharpest declines in the number of openings received between November and December. It is also worth noting that the number of active applicants in professional occupations did not change measurably (+3) between these months while the number of applicants in all other occupations had fairly substantial increases. An August 17th, 1988 article in the "Wall Street Journal" related that the value of a college education is increasing at a faster rate than tuition or inflation. In the 1970's there seemed to be an excess of college graduates, but in the 1980's that trend appears to have changed with an increase of only 5 percent in the number of new college graduates while the size of the work force swelled 28 percent. The very moderate increase in high income manufacturing jobs has not generated a lot of new jobs, and many higher paying jobs outside of manufacturing will require more technical knowledge and the ability to reason and make decisions which means that the rapidly growing labor force will likely be pressured to a greater degree to choose between a more technical higher paying job or a less technical lower paying one.

The greatest percentage increase (33.1 percent); in the number of active applicants occurred in the Laconia local office area, where the number of structural worker applicants increased 72.2 percent, from 176 in November to 303 in December. A year ago during the same period Laconia showed the largest decline of any office in the number of active applicants, going from 546 active applicants in November to 481 in December. The number of structural active applicants increased from 74 to 146 and motor freight and transportation increased from 24 to 50 between those same months; all other occupations reported a drop in the number of active applicants, as a near normal winter in 1987 generated a wide range of jobs. In 1988, while ski areas have received more snowfall than the southern part of the state, they have supplemented natural snow with snow-making activities; however, fewer skiers, especially from out-of-state, have traveled to ski areas because of the general perception that snowfall has been weak. The Manchester local office showed a sizeable increase in the number of active applicants between November (1,531) and December (1,740) of 1988, with structural (+71) and services (+32) accounting for half the increase in active applicants; machine trades accounted for an additional 22 applicants. The previous year showed a drop of 22 active applicants between the same two months with most occupations reporting decreases in the number of active applicants. The experience of the Nashua local office was different than that of Manchester, as the number of active applicants in Nashua rose moderately (November 1,310 to December 1,420), while a year ago the increase was greater (November 602 to December 758). Both offices, however, had a much larger number of active applicants in 1988 than they did a year ago. The Portsmouth local office had an increase of 42 percent, comparing December 1987 (922 applicants) to December 1988 (1,314 applicants); by comparison, Nashua increased 87 percent and Manchester increased 79 percent. All local offices had increases in the number of active applicants in 1988; only three registered an increase of fewer than 50. In 1987, only 10 local offices out of 13 had an increase in active applicants, and 6 of those 10 offices increased by fewer than 50.

The occupations showing the greatest decline in job openings received were sales jobs (-76), which declined after the beginning of December when most demands for Christmas help had been met. Job openings for sales decreased from 124 in November to 28 in December; a year ago, sales openings for the same two months were only 79 in November, which dropped only slightly to 64 in December. Professional, technical and managerial occupations were the only ones showing an increase in the number of job openings received (+13), moving from 103 openings in November to 116 in December, while in the previous year there had been a decrease (-78) in job openings from 175 in November to 97in December. Fewer structural job openings were received in November (202) and December (163) of 1988 than for the same period in 1987 (314 in November and 198 in December), because of a slowdown in housing construction. There was also less of a decline in job openings between November and December 1988 because of a milder winter. Between November and December job openings received declined for services occupations (-53), for benchwork (-41), and for machine trades (-40), while in 1987 these three groups showed declines of -39, -21, and -53, respectively.

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Economic Analysis and Reports
New Hampshire Department of Employment Security

## ACTIVE APPLICANTS BY OCCUPATION, DECEMBER 1988

| Area | Professional, Technical, & Managerial | Clerical | Sales | Services | Farm | Processing | Machine Trades | Benchwork | Structural Work | Freight & Transportation | Packaging & Material Handling | Miscellaneous | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Hampshire | 2,070 | 2,016 | 576 | 1,510 | 142 | 117 | 739 | 657 | 2,463 | 567 | 534 | 80 | 11,471 |
| Berlin | 33 | 81 | 25 | 59 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 15 | 138 | 31 | 16 | 2 | 432 |
| Claremont | 73 | 96 | 21 | 75 | 7 | 6 | 47 | 34 | 83 | 29 | 39 | 2 | 512 |
| Concord | 318 | 209 | 43 | 108 | 20 | 8 | 85 | 64 | 240 | 60 | 47 | 13 | 1,215 |
| Conway | 31 | 36 | 10 | 30 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 41 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 176 |
| Dover | 222 | 255 | 55 | 153 | 18 | 25 | 102 | 129 | 329 | 61 | 30 | 5 | 1,384 |
| Keene | 130 | 124 | 78 | 131 | 10 | 4 | 60 | 50 | 122 | 34 | 47 | 4 | 794 |
| Laconia | 139 | 191 | 39 | 158 | 12 | 13 | 93 | 45 | 303 | 76 | 39 | 2 | 1,110 |
| Lebanon | 80 | 49 | 19 | 51 | 7 | 2 | 21 | 13 | 71 | 15 | 20 | 2 | 350 |
| Littleton | 47 | 104 | 26 | 124 | 10 | 3 | 38 | 18 | 167 | 26 | 12 | 6 | 581 |
| Manchester | 243 | 309 | 101 | 280 | 8 | 18 | 116 | 102 | 342 | 70 | 122 | 29 | 1,740 |
| Nashua | 326 | 260 | 71 | 139 | 20 | 21 | 66 | 119 | 229 | 73 | 87 | 9 | 1,420 |
| Portsmouth | 312 | 225 | 63 | 166 | 16 | 13 | 46 | 38 | 312 | 56 | 64 | 3 | 1,314 |
| Salem | 116 | 77 | 25 | 36 | 9 | 2 | 29 | 28 | 86 | 25 | 7 | 3 | 443 |

*Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table A96*

## JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED BY OCCUPATION, DECEMBER 1988

| Area | Professional, Technical, & Managerial | Clerical | Sales | Services | Farm | Processing | Machine Trades | Benchwork | Structural Work | Motor Freight & Transportation | Packaging & Material Handling | Miscellaneous | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Hampshire | 116 | 276 | 48 | 179 | 21 | 12 | 94 | 87 | 163 | 51 | 75 | 14 | 1,136 |
| Berlin | 2 | 8 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 46 |
| Claremont | 8 | 16 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 13 | 18 | 8 | 6 | 18 | 1 | 105 |
| Concord | 17 | 44 | 7 | 22 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 131 |
| Conway | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 22 |
| Dover | 22 | 24 | 4 | 21 | 5 | 3 | 10 | 20 | 16 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 133 |
| Keene | 1 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 15 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 61 |
| Laconia | 8 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 2 | 22 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 68 |
| Lebanon | 1 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 36 |
| Littleton | 2 | 12 | 1 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 65 |
| Manchester | 10 | 32 | 8 | 24 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 19 | 29 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 161 |
| Nashua | 3 | 19 | 4 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 80 |
| Portsmouth | 9 | 24 | 4 | 24 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 14 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 99 |
| Salem | 14 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 39 |
| All Others | 17 | 58 | 0 | 6 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 |

*Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table 10*

## ACTIVE APPLICANTS BY SEX, AGE, MINORITY STATUS, AND VETERAN STATUS, DECEMBER 1988

| Area | Male | Female | Eligible Claimants | Minority | Veterans | Age < 45 | Age > 45 | Total Active Applicants | Unfilled Openings: Total | Unfilled Openings: 30 Days + |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Hampshire | 7,022 | 4,449 | 4,526 | 405 | 2,197 | 9,321 | 2,150 | 11,471 | 1,392 | 904 |
| Berlin | 265 | 167 | 139 | 6 | 74 | 339 | 93 | 432 | 74 | 50 |
| Claremont | 297 | 215 | 105 | 6 | 72 | 439 | 73 | 512 | 79 | 49 |
| Concord | 750 | 465 | 550 | 28 | 278 | 975 | 240 | 1,215 | 80 | 37 |
| Conway | 114 | 62 | 60 | 3 | 32 | 138 | 38 | 176 | 29 | 26 |
| Dover | 826 | 558 | 558 | 27 | 278 | 1,144 | 240 | 1,384 | 126 | 72 |
| Keene | 474 | 320 | 229 | 13 | 200 | 618 | 176 | 794 | 125 | 95 |
| Laconia | 743 | 367 | 523 | 12 | 167 | 927 | 183 | 1,110 | 102 | 70 |
| Lebanon | 243 | 107 | 97 | 12 | 80 | 276 | 74 | 350 | 33 | 18 |
| Littleton | 334 | 247 | 209 | 4 | 82 | 480 | 101 | 581 | 63 | 32 |
| Manchester | 1,009 | 731 | 661 | 108 | 295 | 1,434 | 306 | 1,740 | 116 | 62 |
| Nashua | 859 | 561 | 731 | 123 | 221 | 1,144 | 276 | 1,420 | 99 | 67 |
| Portsmouth | 836 | 478 | 437 | 52 | 326 | 1,064 | 250 | 1,314 | 120 | 79 |
| Salem | 272 | 171 | 227 | 11 | 92 | 343 | 100 | 443 | 120 | 99 |
| All Others | | | | | | | | | 226 | 148 |

*Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table A96*

## JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED BY INDUSTRY, DECEMBER 1988

| Area | Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | Construction & Mining | Manufacturing | Transportation, Communication & Utilities | Trade | Finance Insurance, Real Estate | Services | Public Administration | Total | Government Openings in Columns 1-8* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Hampshire | 14 | 151 | 288 | 15 | 190 | 53 | 309 | 116 | 1,136 | 165 |
| Berlin | 0 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 24 | 3 | 46 | 4 |
| Claremont | 0 | 10 | 51 | 2 | 18 | 4 | 20 | 0 | 105 | 6 |
| Concord | 0 | 21 | 15 | 4 | 22 | 23 | 34 | 12 | 131 | 22 |
| Conway | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| Dover | 2 | 16 | 31 | 0 | 18 | 5 | 57 | 4 | 133 | 36 |
| Keene | 1 | 14 | 18 | 2 | 17 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 61 | 1 |
| Laconia | 0 | 10 | 37 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 16 | 2 | 68 | 7 |
| Lebanon | 0 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 10 | 0 | 36 | 0 |
| Littleton | 0 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 28 | 5 | 65 | 0 |
| Manchester | 0 | 35 | 44 | 0 | 42 | 3 | 32 | 5 | 161 | 2 |
| Nashua | 0 | 6 | 25 | 1 | 15 | 5 | 28 | 0 | 80 | 1 |
| Portsmouth | 3 | 7 | 34 | 1 | 15 | 3 | 27 | 9 | 99 | 12 |
| Salem | 0 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 15 | 2 | 39 | 0 |
| All Others | 8 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 74 | 90 | 74 |

*Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table 10*

* *This column includes Job Openings received from government-owned-and-operated employers in all types of industries. It consists of numbers that are included in the first eight columns.*

## U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, DECEMBER 1988

| | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1982-84=100** | | | | |
| **All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)** | | | | |
| December Index | 120.5 | 115.4 | 110.5 | 109.3 |
| Percent Change From Previous December | 4.4 | 4.4 | 1.1 | 3.8 |
| **Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)** | | | | |
| December Index | 119.2 | 114.2 | 109.3 | 108.6 |
| Percent Change From Previous December | 4.4 | 4.5 | 0.6 | 3.6 |
| **1967=100** | | | | |
| **All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)** | | | | |
| December Index | 360.9 | 345.7 | 331.10 | 327.4 |
| Percent Change From Previous December | 4.4 | 4.4 | 1.1 | 3.8 |
| **Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)** | | | | |
| December Index | 355.0 | 340.2 | 325.7 | 323.4 |
| Percent Change From Previous December | 4.4 | 4.5 | 0.7 | 3.6 |

***Note:*** *This table was introduced in the August issue. In prior issues we had shown the calendar year averages for each of the preceding three years along with the current month's indicies. This new table shows the indicies for the current month and those for the same month in each of the three previous years. This enables you to compare changes in the CPI indicies over four twelve-month periods.*

## DECEMBER CPI INDEXES BY CATEGORY

(1982-84=100, except where otherwise noted)

| Categories | CPI-U December Index | Unadjusted Percent Change from: December 1987 | Unadjusted Percent Change from: November 1988 | CPI-W December Index |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| All Items | 120.5 | 4.4 | 0.2 | 119.2 |
| All Items (1967=100) | 360.9 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 355.0 |
| Food and Beverages | 120.6 | 5.1 | 0.3 | 120.3 |
| Housing | 120.2 | 4.0 | 0.3 | 118.5 |
| Apparel and Upkeep | 118.0 | 4.7 | -1.6 | 117.6 |
| Transportation | 110.8 | 3.0 | 0.1 | 110.4 |
| Medical Care | 142.3 | 6.9 | 0.4 | 142.8 |
| Entertainment | 122.8 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 122.2 |
| Other Goods and Services | 141.3 | 7.0 | 0.2 | 140.6 |

Source: United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Notes of Interest

### 1988 New Hampshire Wages and Benefits Report Available.

The ***1988 New Hampshire Wages and Benefits*** report has been completed and is now available. The report includes hourly wage rates for over 68,000 workers in 379 occupations from 1,395 employers in New Hampshire. Organized by labor market areas and industrial clusters, wage rates for each occupation are reported in four categories: lowest hourly wage reported, highest hourly wage reported, average hourly wage, and median hourly wage. In addition, each firm was asked to provide information concerning personnel practices and employee fringe benefits. The report this year contains both the wages section and the personnel practices and employee benefits section, which were published as separate reports last year. Special reports providing occupational hourly wage information by industrial cluster within individual labor market areas are again available this year. Results of the survey will allow companies to compare wages and benefits with similar firms, with other local firms, and with all types of firms throughout the state.

A complimentary synopsis of the survey results is being sent to all survey participants, along with an order form for a copy of the complete publication. Participants were asked this year to pay a nominal amount for the full report to cover reproduction costs. Nonparticipants are able to purchase the survey results for $100. Copies of the special reports are available for $5.00 each. Order forms may be obtained by contacting the Economic Reports and Analysis of the Department of Employment Security (228-4173 or 228-4178).

The survey was cosponsored and conducted by the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security (DES), the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire (BIA), the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), the New Hampshire Association of Commerce and Industry (NHACI), the New Hampshire Hospital Association (NHHA), and the State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee of New Hampshire (SOICC). We would jointly like to take this opportunity to thank all those employers who participated in the 1988 New Hampshire Wages and Benefits Survey.

### New Industrial Classification Codes Affect Data Series

The 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) coding system has been implemented, beginning with 1988 industry data. The SIC system classifies establishments according to type of economic activity. This allows collection and analysis of data relating to establishments, and provides a description of the state economy. The adoption of a replacement to the 1972 SIC coding system is in response to technological change and economic growth and decline of individual industries. Approximately fifteen percent of all establishments were affected by a change in industrial classification.

The SIC system is hierarchical, with broadly similar types of establishments being grouped together in a "two-digit" class. For example, a retail establishment primarily engaged in selling new clothing, shoes, hats, underwear, and related articles for personal wear and adornment would be placed in Major Group 56 - "Apparel and Accessory Stores". Establishments primarily engaged in the same activity are then further placed in a "three-digit" and then a "four-digit" industrial class. Establishments become more similar the higher the number of digits in the industrial code. For example, an establishment engaged primarily in selling women's ready-to-wear clothing would be classified in Industry 5621 - "Women's Clothing Stores", a subset of Major Group 56.

For the most part, changes in classification were made at the three- or four-digit level, meaning that reclassified establishments remained in the same Major Group (two-digit level). However, the 1987 SIC coding system did create an entirely new Major Group, SIC 87 - "Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management, and Related Services", which comprises establishments that had previously been included in Major Groups 73 (Business Services) and 89 (Miscellaneous Services).

The two largest manufacturing industries, "Machinery" (SIC 35) and "Electrical Products, excluding Machinery" (SIC 36) had significant code changes. The principal changes were "search and navigation equipment", "measuring, and controlling devices, n.e.c.", and "x-ray aparatus and tubes" which changed from SIC 36 to SIC 38 - "Measuring, Analyzing, and Controlling Instruments". "Computer terminals", previously in SIC 36, changed to SIC 35.

For the user of New Hampshire economic data, these changes mean that, beginning with 1988 data, information for many "two-digit industries" (Major Groups) will not be strictly comparable with two-digit industry data from previous years. Aggregate employment and wages information will, however, be comparable, as will most Divisions (Construction and Mining; Manufacturing; Transportation and Public Utilities; Wholesale and Retail Trade). The Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate Division saw some establishments that were mixtures of real estate, insurance, and law offices reclassified as "legal services" establishments, which are now included in the Services Division.

For more information, please contact the Economic Analysis and Reports Section at (603) 228-4124.

## WEEKLY CLAIMS FILED DURING DECEMBER
## CLASSIFIED BY LOCAL OFFICE

| Area | U. C. Unemployment Compensation | | State Workers (Only) | | U. C. Local Government | | Ex-Military Servicemen (UCX Only) | | U.C. Federal Employees No U.I. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Initial Claims | Continued Claims | Initial Claims | Continued Claims | Initial Claims | Continued Claims | Initial Claims | Continued Claims | Initial Claims | Continued Claims |
| All Offices | 6,335 | 10,489 | 10 | 27 | 4 | 6 | 70 | 34 | 15 | 37 |
| Berlin | 297 | 539 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Claremont | 359 | 229 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Concord | 769 | 1,073 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| Conway | 111 | 310 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Dover | 890 | 1,231 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Keene | 183 | 304 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Laconia | 689 | 903 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Lebanon | 76 | 163 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Littleton | 274 | 732 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Manchester | 1,120 | 1,763 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| Nashua | 653 | 1,201 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Portsmouth | 450 | 777 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 11 |
| Salem | 261 | 275 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Liable Interstate | 203 | 989 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 |

*The average payment for a week of total unemployment: $124.84*

*The Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance at the End of the Month: $187,291,071.99*

*Net contributions received during the month: $115,003.54*

*Net benefits paid during the month: $1,137,447.49*

*Interest Received: $3,823,801.56*